PAULA T. DOW ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY Division of Law, 5th Floor 124 Halsey Street P.O. Box 45029 Newark, New Jersey 07101 Attorney for the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

FILED

By: Susan C. Berger Deputy Attorney General Tel. (973) 648-4876

> STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNSELOR PROFESSIONAL **EXAMINERS** COMMITTEE OF THE STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY **EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE

APPLICATION OF

Administrative Action

RIMA A. MASON, LAC License No. 37AC00023200

TO PRACTICE AS A PROFESSIONAL :

COUNSELOR IN THE STATE

NEW JERSEY

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened before the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Board") upon review of Ms. Mason's application for licensure as a Professional Counselor. Ms. Mason disclosed in her application that she had worked as a counselor in a for-profit setting at Affinity Counseling Center in North Haledon, New Jersey under the supervision of Debbie A. Passenti, R.N., M.A., LPC from January 2005 until the present. Ms. Mason was first licensed as an Associate Counselor during December 2005.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that the applicant engaged in the unlicensed practice of professional and/or associate counseling, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39(a), by engaging in the practice of associate or professional counseling prior to issuance of any license entitling her to provide such services in a for-profit setting in New Jersey.

It appearing that the applicant desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings, and the Committee finding this Consent Order to be adequately protective of the public interest, and other good cause appearing;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 4TH DAY OF MOUTH 2010

ORDERED:

- 1. None of the supervised hours performed by respondent in any for-profit setting, prior to licensure as an associate counselor, shall count toward the mandatory hours of supervised experience required for licensure as a Professional Counselor.
- 2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00). Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the "State of New Jersey" and sent to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101. The civil penalty shall be paid contemporaneously with the signing of the Consent Order.

3. Failure to remit payment as required by this Order will result in the filing of a Certificate of Debt and such other proceedings as are permitted by law.

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

J. Barry Mascari, Ed.D., LPC

President

I have read the above Order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee of the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order.

Rima A. Mason, MA, LAC